



Representative Louise M. Slaughter
Chairwoman, House Committee on Rules
Representing New York's 28th District

PRESS RELEASE

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Slaughter Applauds \$475 Million in Great Lakes Funding in Obama's Budget

Washington, DC – Congresswoman Louise M. Slaughter (D-NY-28), Chairwoman of the House Rules Committee and Co-Chair of the Great Lakes Task Force, today applauded the inclusion of \$475 million for Great Lakes restoration in President Obama's fiscal year 2010 budget.

"The Great Lakes are a prized natural resource and a significant economic engine for our country," said Rep. Slaughter. "By investing in the protection and restoration of this national treasure, we will not only preserve the lakes for future generations but create jobs and bolster regional communities, industries, and economies. As Co-Chair of the Great Lakes Task Force, I applaud President Obama's serious commitment to defend the Great Lakes and strengthen our economy."

The Great Lakes, a significant source of our nation's fresh water, are seriously threatened by problems such as sewage contamination, invasive species, toxic pollution and the loss of wetlands and other habitat. According to the Brookings Institution, an investment of \$26 billion to restore the Great Lakes will lead to at least \$50 billion in economic benefit for the region.

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